

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 are pending in this application. Claims 1-4 stand rejected.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for alleged indefiniteness. More specifically, the Examiner asserts that there is no antecedent basis for the recitation “**the** password entered” in claims 1 and 2. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner’s proposal to change “**the** password entered” to --a password entered--. Approval and entry of these changes to claims 1 and 2 are respectfully solicited.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over **Mizoguchi** (USP 5,841,466, previously cited) in view of **Ito** (US 2001/0021979, previously cited). For the reasons set forth in detail below, this rejection, to the extent it is considered to apply to the present claims, is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-4 have been amended to further define how the “operation means (unit)” is involved in inhibiting operation of the liquid crystal projector. More specifically, the claims have been amended to clarify that the operation means (unit) includes means (unit) for entering a command to control the liquid crystal projector via key entry, and a key operation of the operation means (unit) is nullified in response to determining that the number of times an

erroneous password is entered exceeds a predetermined number of times. Support for these changes is provided, e.g., on page 6, lines 17-20 of the U.S. application.

It is submitted that neither **Mizoguchi et al.** nor **Ito** disclose or suggest the features presently recited in claims 1-4. More specifically, **Mizoguchi et al.** teaches that an *image input switch SW* is turned on only when the input password is matched with the registered password (see Abstract and Fig. 4 of **Mizoguchi et al.**). In contrast, the present invention inhibits operation of an *operation means (unit)* (e.g., *element 21 of the present invention*) by nullifying operation of a key operation of the operation means (unit) in response to determining that an erroneous password is entered more than a predetermined number of times. Further, **Ito** is silent with respect to inhibiting operation of an operation means (unit).

As shown in Fig. 4 of **Mizoguchi et al.**, it appears that the image signal that is input to the image input switch SW in **Mizoguchi et al.** is similar to the video signal input to the video input terminal 1 of the present invention. Note, the image signal input via the image input switch SW of **Mizoguchi et al.** is input to LCD driver 32. Similarly, according to the present invention, the video signal input to the video input terminal 1 is input to driving circuit 4.

Further, according to **Mizoguchi et al.**, although the operation of the image input switch SW is inhibited, **Mizoguchi et al.** does not disclose or suggest that the operation of the remote controllers 3, 5 is inhibited. The remote controllers 3, 5 enter commands to control the LCD by knob input or key input (see, e.g., Fig. 2 and col. 2, lines 19-29). Therefore, the remote controllers 3, 5 can still control certain functions described in col. 2, lines 19-29, even if the operation of the image input switch SW is inhibited.

As noted above, **Mizoguchi et al.** teaches that the *image input switch SW* is turned on only when the input password is matched with the registered password (see Abstract and Fig. 4). The image input switch SW is a switch that allows an image signal to be input. However, it is submitted that inhibiting operation of the image input switch SW does not affect operation of remote controller inputs 3, 5 which control functions of the liquid crystal display (col. 2, lines 19-29). Thus, unlike **Mizoguchi et al.** and **Ito**, according to the claimed invention, the key operation of an operation means (unit) is nullified upon determining an erroneous password is entered, wherein the operation means (unit) is a means for controlling the liquid crystal projector via key entry.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that neither **Mizoguchi et al.** nor **Ito** disclose or suggest the invention as presently recited in claims 1-4. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under §103 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and accompanying remarks, it is submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the rejection and an indication of allowability of all pending claims are earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that there are issues remaining to be resolved in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite and complete prosecution of this case.

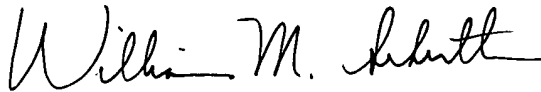
Application No. 10/644,068
Art Unit: 2629

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.111
Attorney Docket No.: 031016

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William M. Schertler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "William" being the most prominent.

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